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Library Info Alert
Summer 2006

Library Info Alert focuses on recent developments in the field of library science and information management in the United States. It contains summaries of articles from leading library-related periodicals and recommended Internet sites. The *Library Info Alert* is published by the Information Resource Centers in Germany.

Articles • Selected News and Sites on the Web

ARTICLES

1. 10 Steps to a Successful Job Match
By Kathryn Kennedy
(*Information Outlook*, May 2006, v10, #5, pg. 17)

The author details the 10 steps on how to make the most of one's job searching process--from exploring potential positions all the way to making sure one receives sufficient training once hired. She stresses that if one starts looking for a job, they should make sure they know what type of information center they want to work in. *Kathryn Kennedy is currently the engineering outreach librarian at the University of Florida's Marston Science Library.*

2. Building a Digital Library on a Shoestring
By Kate Foster Boyd and Alma Creighton
(*Computers in Libraries*, June 2006, v26, #6, pg. 14)

With technology costs so high, how is it possible to create a digital library without breaking the budget? At the University of South Carolina, this is just what we were determined to figure out. *Kate Foster Boyd has been the digital collections librarian at the University of South Carolina Libraries in Columbia, S.C., for 2years. Alma Creighton has been head of the systems department for the University of South Carolina Libraries in Columbia for 7 years.*

3. Copyright Conundrum: Documentaries and Rights Clearance
By K Matthew Dames
(*Information Today*, June 2006, v23, #6, pg. 24)

Eyes on the Prize, which was released in 1987, is widely considered to be one of the finest and most comprehensive documentaries ever produced about the American civil rights movement. Most of the license agreements for the original 14-part series produced by filmmaker Henry Hampton expired in the 1990s. Without license renewals for all the copyrighted works used in the documentary, any sales or broadcasts of the documentary may result in copyright infringement lawsuits. Several of the problems that documentarians face -- among them fair use, licensing, permissions, and rights clearance, and the term of copyright -- are problems that information professionals will face as digitization programs become more commonplace. *K. Matthew Dames, JD, M.L.S. is the executive editor of CopyCense (copycense com), an online publication that covers the intersection of business, law, and technology. He also is an adjunct professor at Syracuse University's School of Information Studies.*

4. Data Security: An Ounce of Prevention
By Phillip Britt

(*Information Today* June 2006, v23, #6, pg. 1)

Just when people thought security efforts to curtail breaches were taking hold, the Reuters news agency reported in May that a laptop had been stolen from an Aetna employee's car. The computer contained personal information on about 38,000 members who were employees from two companies that were Aetna customers, including names, addresses, and Social Security numbers. Top security experts made several suggestions to help protect information on computers. *Phillip Britt, president and CEO of S&P Enterprises, Inc., is a business writer who covers key topics in the information industry.*

5. Facing Budget Cuts: Must We Rob Peter to Pay Paul?
By Janet L Balas
(*Computers in Libraries*, June 2006, v26, #6, pg. 36)

Here in Pennsylvania, public libraries have been on a roller coaster ride over the last few years with regard to the public library subsidy in the state budget. The changing role of libraries was discussed in the Feb. 27, 2006, edition of National Public Radio's (NPR) Talk of the Nation during a program titled "If a Library Is Bookless, What's In It?" In the synopsis, which appears on the NPR Web site, the panelists raise the issue of funding and acknowledge the budget difficulties of municipal and county governments. WebJunction, a project that provides support for public access computers in libraries, realizes that in order to fund technology initiatives, librarians need fundraising resources to help them deal with financial concerns. *Janet L. Balas is library information systems specialist at Monroeville (Pa.) Public Library.*

6. "Get Outta Here and Get Me Some Money, Too": Web Resources for Public Library Fundraising
By Irene E. McDermott
(*Searcher*, June 2006, v14, #6, pg. 13)

The described nonprofit organization was founded in 2001 by the Time Warner Foundation and AOL, Inc.; the Cisco Foundation and Cisco Systems, Inc.; and Yahoo! Inc., to help charities with cost-effective ways "to use the Internet as a tool for fundraising, volunteer recruitment and supporter engagement." The site charges a modest fee to process gifts made though its site: 3 percent of credit-card donations and $10 per transaction for online checks, although there are no set-up charges or monthly fees. *Irene E. McDermott is Reference Librarian/System Manager at the San Marino Public Library.*

7. The Google Library Project: Both Sides of the Story
By Jonathan Band
(*Information Outlook*, June 2006, v10, #6, pg. 35)

Google's announcement that it will include in its search database the full text of books from five of the world's leading research libraries has provoked newspaper editorials, public debates, and two lawsuits. This article will attempt to set forth the facts and review the arguments in a systematic manner. Although both sides have strong legal arguments, the article concludes that the applicable legal precedents support Google's fair-use position. *Jonathan Band is an adjunct professor at the Georgetown University Law Center.*

8. Google Your Library's Mission
By Frederick Nesta
(*Library Journal*, June 1, 2006, v131, #10, pg. 36)

Another [Google] motto is "Never settle for the best." This never-stand-still philosophy is vital in the competitive world it lives in: imagine being Google founders Larry Page and [Sergey Brin] and seeing Microsoft in your rearview mirror. Libraries are still ahead of Google in the race to organize the world's information, but Google is certainly catching up rapidly.

If we are complacent, we will lose. *Frederick Nesta managed academic and special libraries in New York and London before becoming University Librarian at Lingnan University in Hong Kong in 2004.*

9. 'I Am and Always Will Be a Librarian'
By Forrest Glenn Spencer
(*Information Outlook*, May 2006, Vol. 10, Issue 5, pg. 12)

John DiGilio, a librarian relations manager for Thomson West, a subsidiary of Thomson Corp, one of the largest publishers of law books and online legal information, is profiled. DiGilio--the son from a large Italian family who left his small town for the city--studied to be a lawyer and became a law librarian instead. He worked as a legal researcher and librarian and now works for a company that develops tools for the legal profession. *Forrest Glenn Spencer is a Virginia-based independent development researcher and freelance writer.*

10. I've Looked at Life . . .
By Julie Todaro
(*Library Administration & Management*, Summer 2006, v20, #3, pg. 147)

Debates or discourses--in general--offer the opportunity for a public exchange of ideas, and exchange typically represents varying or opposite opinions or presentations of facts on two completely different sides of an issue. The goal of the debate itself includes the exploration of a subject and--if appropriate--a decision on an issue or choice of a direction. Todaro discusses the characteristics of a discourse or debate. *Julie Todaro is Dean of Library Services, Austin Community College, Texas.*

11. Inspired Hiring: Tools for Success in Interviewing and Hiring Library Staff
By Richard McKay
(*Library Administration & Management*, Summer 2006, v20, #3, pg. 128)

If one is a director or other library administrator, its most important job is hiring librarians. One must have a broad and simple goal for the employee selection process: to pick a good worker from a pool of interviewees. Here, McKay offers tools for successful interview and hiring of library staff. *Richard McKay is Director of the San Jacinto College South Campus Library, Houston, Texas.*

12. Is Search Disappearing?
By Donald T. Hawkins
(*Information Today*, June 2006, v23, #6, pg. 33)

Google and its competitors are here to stay, and there will always be a need for stand-alone Web search engines. But according to the buzz at the 11th Search Engine Meeting, which was held Apr 24-Apr 25 in Boston, the search industry is changing. The Search Engine Meeting, organized by Infonortics Ltd, pointed to radical technological changes and advances coupled with long-established information principles. One of Google's new moves was entering into the enterprise search market with the Google OneBox for Enterprise. Google clearly has hopes to expand the enterprise search market, which amounts to only about one-tenth of the $10 billion Web search market. Another emerging trend in searching is its integration into a wide variety of applications, which represents a major step toward enriching the user's information experience. *Donald T. Hawkins is information technology and database consultant at Information Today, Inc.*

12. Leaders as Readers: Books That Make Their Mark
By Pamala Spiegel
(*American Libraries*, May 2006, v37, #5, pg. 44)

In that vein, American Libraries asked a group of library leaders across the country to pick their favorite books of the last few years, either personal or professional, and

tell us why they were so moving, inspiring, or just plain enjoyable. Heskett's exploration of how design processes shape our environment has influenced my vision about design in the development and delivery of library services. The book elaborates on the themes of his earlier work (City of Bits, e-topia) and continues to chronicle cultural change brought about by social preferences for interacting with software over the material forms they represent. *Pamala Spiegel is editorial assistant at "American Libraries".*

14. Me, Myself, and I
By Cathleen Bourdon
(*American Libraries*, May 2006, v37, #5, pg. 64)

Being a solo librarian can be challenging, but Judith A. Siess offers assistance in The New OPL Sourcebook: A Guide for Solo and Small Libraries. In this updated and expanded edition of her 2001 book, Siess covers key management topics of interest to one-person libraries (OPLs), providing a brief history of the OPL movement, sharing tips and practical advice, and including case studies of successful OPLs. She also offers an in-depth directory of organizations, publications, discussion lists, and websites. *Cathleen Bourdon is executive director of ALA's Reference and User Services Association.*

15. Professionalism, Part 2
By Bonnie A. Osif
(*Library Administration & Management*, Summer 2006, v20, #3, pg. 154)

The regularity of professionalism and the clear lack of concern for the effect of it on others have convinced everyone that it is deliberate. Many interpret it as both rude disregard for others and a passive-aggressive way of showing self-importance. Here, Osif discusses the many aspects of professionalism, including attitudes and behaviors in the library. Bonnie A. *Osif is Assistant Engineering Librarian at Pennsylvania State University in University Park.*

16. Relationship and Network Building
By Debbie Schachter
(*Information Outlook*, May 2006, v10, #5, pg. 10)

Developing relationships and creating networks are probably the most important activities one will undertake in his professional life. Creating relationships and thus personal networks is life-long work. As most people can attest, building a personal relationship is difficult and requires commitment over the long term. Schachter discusses the importance of building relationships. *Debbie Schachter is the associate executive director of the Jewish Family Service Agency in Vancouver, British Columbia.*

17. Thinking and Researching-Don't Just 'Google It'
By Steven M. Cohen
(*Information Today*, June 2006, v23, #6, pg. 28)

Google has been so successful that intense, scholarly research has become the victim of "Googling it." Instead of spending time poring over and analyzing material for a 10-page term paper on the fall of the Nazi regime, students are Googling themselves into believing that they have found enough information on the topic. In a Library Stuff entry that the author posted in March, he outlined 10 things that librarians can do to ensure they do not reinforce "just Google it" searching skills. *Steven M. Cohen in senior librarian at PubSub Concepts, Inc. (http://www.pubsub.com).*

18. Toward Terminology Services: Experiences with a Pilot Web Service Thesaurus Browser
By Douglas Tudhope and Ceri Binding
(*Bulletin of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, June/July 2006, Vol.32, Issue 5, pg. 6)

Knowledge organization systems (KOS), such as classifications, gazetteers, taxonomies and thesauri, provide

controlled vocabularies that organize and structure concepts for indexing, classifying, browsing and search. The lack of standardized access and interchange formats impedes wider use of KOS resources. The authors developed a Web demonstrator that explored thesaurus-based query expansion with the Getty Art and Architecture Thesaurus. However, being based on a custom thesaurus representation and API, the techniques cannot be applied directly to thesauri in other formats on the Web. The Simple Knowledge Organization System Application Programming Interface (SKOS API) is a recent development that addresses some of these issues. As initial exploration of programmatic access to KOS with the SKOS API, the authors developed a pilot PC-based Web service client demonstrator application. Supported by concept caching, it generally achieved a fast enough response for reasonable interaction and suggests that the SKOS API can support client applications of this type. *Both authors are with the Hypermedia Research Unit at the University of Glamorgan, Wales, United Kingdom.*

19. The Weakest Link: Is It Your Web Site?
By Tom Peters and Lori Bell
(*Computers in Libraries*, June 2006, v26, #6, pg. 32)

Even if a Web site is not the destination point for an information resource, library users often interact with Web sites in the process of searching for and discovering online collections and services. Also, any Web site that automatically refreshes itself, whether updating sports scores on ESPN or refreshing the text chat within a virtual reference service, will create problems for screen reader software, because it interprets each refresh as a new Web page. The Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) of the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) has been one of the leading groups worldwide to provide strategies, guidelines, and other resources to make the Web more accessible to people with disabilities. *Lori Bell is director of innovation at the Alliance Library System, a regional multitype library system located in East Peoria, Ill. Tom Peters is the founder of TAP Information Services in Blue Springs, Mo.*

SELECTED NEWS AND SITES ON THE WEB

- **Bloggers: A Portrait of the Internet's New Storytellers**
  http://www.pewinternet.org/PPF/r/186/report_display.asp

  This nationwide survey of bloggers found that "most are focused on describing their personal experiences to a relatively small audience of readers and that only a small proportion focus their coverage on politics, media, government, or technology." A 2006 report from the Pew Internet & American Life Project, an initiative funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

- **2006 National Book Festival**
  http://www.loc.gov/bookfest/

  The 2006 National Book Festival, organized and sponsored by the Library of Congress and hosted by First Lady Laura Bush, will be held on Saturday, Sept. 30, 2006, on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., between 7th and 14th streets from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (rain or shine). The festival is free and open to the public.

- **The Onion: Celebrating 10 Years Online**

http://www.theonion.com

The Onion commemorates its tenth year online with a look back at some of the groundbreaking news stories, opinion pieces, and photojournalism that have secured its status as America's most trusted news source. Whether it's covering business, politics, or the world of sports/religion, The Onion has displayed the utmost integrity and sense of responsibility to the American public. Every day until Friday, the online media giant is offering a sampling from one year of the last decade, so don't forget to check back throughout the week. And by all means, peruse the editorial archive of Publisher Emeritus T. Herman Zweibel, one of journalism's great pioneers. Because whether you're seeking hard news or human interest stories, you know where to turn.

- **Streetscape and Townscape of Metropolitan New York City, 1860-1942**
  http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/explore/dgexplore.cfm?col_id=243

  This month's featured collection guide presents over 500 prints and photographs offering the complete content of a wide range of selected image collections and illustrated monographs: Hudson River mansions, including Washington Irving's home and vicinity in the 1860s; street views by Alice Austen from 1896; a panorama of Fifth Avenue from 1911, and more.

- **Long Overdue: A Fresh Look at Public and Leadership Attitudes About Libraries in the 21st Century. [Public Agenda, Public Opinion Survey] June 2006**
  http://www.publicagenda.org/research/pdfs/long_overdue.pdf

  Based on telephone interviews with national random sample of 1,203 adults 18 years and older. Of those, 458 interviews were done with respondents who are civically engaged in the community on a number dimensions such as voting and volunteerism. Public Agenda also conducted 34 in-depth interviews with national and community leaders in politics, business, education, public health and library architecture to share their perspectives about the future of public libraries in America, as well as focus groups in six diverse communities across the nation.

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